

Co-operative Federation of Victoria Ltd
Minutes of Board Meeting
10:30 am, 18 March 2004
Words In Time
1/484 King William Street

PRESENT

Tony O'Shea, N. Black. David Dinning, Graeme Charles and David Griffiths

Minutes of the previous meeting

That the minutes of the meeting of 25 February 2004 be approved as a true and accurate record and be signed by the Chairman.

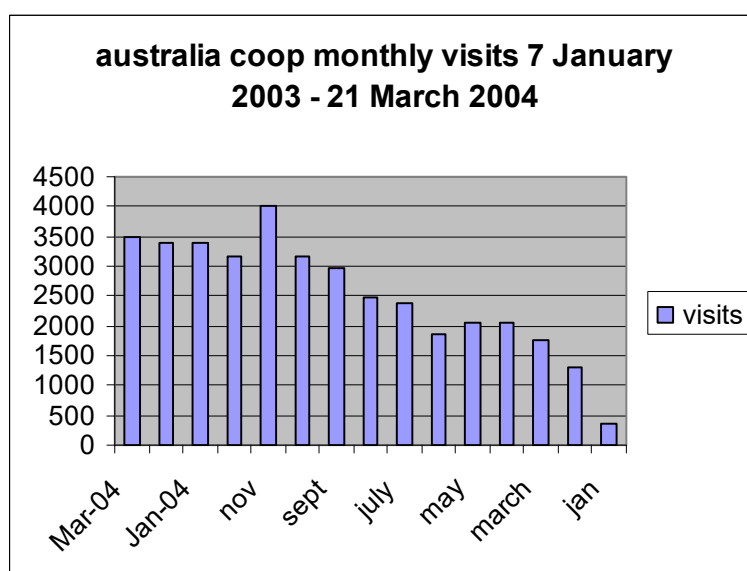
M: N. Black S: G. Charles CARRIED

australia.coop

The board further noted the continued success of australia.coop and the work of the Secretary was once again acknowledged but questions were asked about what exactly was being achieved and how this related to CFV's objectives.

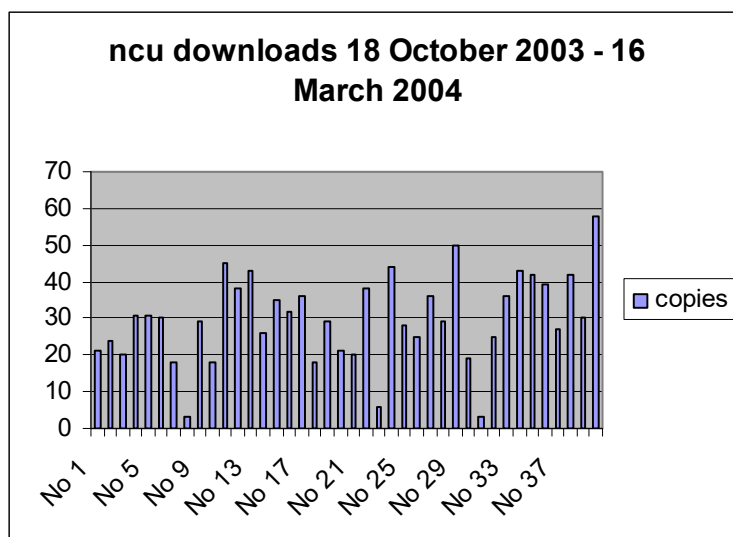
The Secretary suggested that australia.coop was central to CFV's objectives - significantly contributing to co-operative advocacy and education. He said the issue was to build-on the success of australia.coop

He provided data on australia.coop visits since 7 January 2003 and commented that March 2004 was indicating a record number of visits would be achieved. The stats for March have been updated to 21 March 2004:

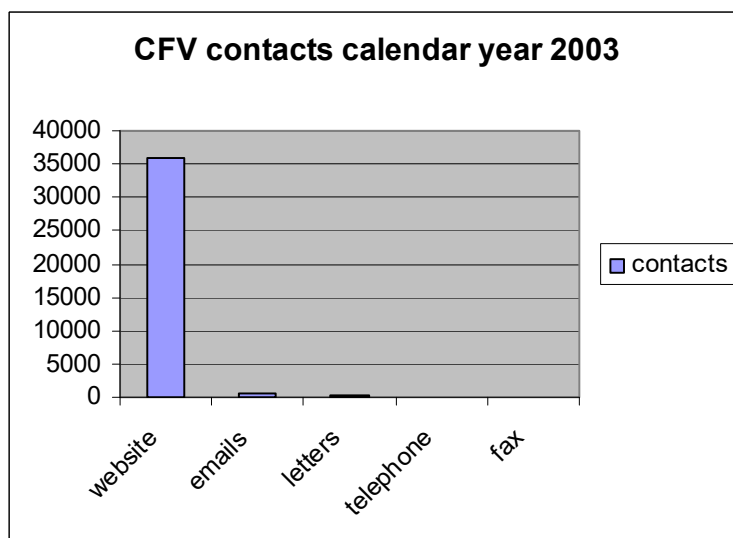


Co-operative Federation of Victoria Ltd
 Minutes of Board Meeting
 10:30 am, 18 March 2004
 Words In Time
 1/484 King William Street

He provided the following analysis of downloads of NCU:



He also provided this comparison of incoming contacts with CFV by media:



He said that this illustrated the success of the online presence.

He asked the board to consider the comments of the ICA's Garry Cronan:

I would like to say a few words about the role and importance of australia.coop

Co-operative Federation of Victoria Ltd
Minutes of Board Meeting
10:30 am, 18 March 2004
Words In Time
1/484 King William Street

I have observed the development of this website from within Australia and recently from a global perspective at the ICA. From both these standpoints I believe it is playing a key role.

Firstly, within Australia it is one of the only a very few online sources of information about co-operatives. The website provides timely, thought provoking and interesting reports and commentary about co-operatives. Over the course of the last couple of years it has grown to have what is probably the latest amount of material on co-operatives in the country. It is nearly always the first website to carry news on what is happening. It is in effect an online news service for co-operatives. Given the absence of a strong media presence and little by the way of resources anywhere for co-operatives in Australia, the website provides a particularly important service, in what appears to be a very cost manner.

The website enjoys a strong international following. Since joining the ICA late last year a sizeable number of people have commented on the site to me. I know several leading international co-operators who visit the site at least once a week to stay abreast of developments reported on the site. This brings considerable credit to the Victorian Co-operative Federation as well as you. The site was one of the international leaders in adopting the .coop community (national) name.

In summary I believe the site is not only one of the most effective co-operative sites in Australia, but internationally,

Kind regards

Garry Cronan

Garry Cronan
ICA Communications Manager
E-mail: cronan@ica.coop

International Co-operative Alliance
15, Route des Morillons
1218 Grand-Saconnex, Geneva
Switzerland

Financial Statements and Budget 2004-05

The Chairman reported that he was working on this.

Co-operative Education

Graeme Charles reported that he had contacted the CFNSW and the NZCA regarding working with the UK Co-operative College. He said that the NZCA had responded positively with stated reservations and that the CFNSW had not responded.

Co-operative Federation of Victoria Ltd
Minutes of Board Meeting
10:30 am, 18 March 2004
Words In Time
1/484 King William Street

The Chairman invited Mr. Gary Oliver, Vice President of the AICUD, to make a presentation on the courses and workshops offered by the Institute and the possibility of the CFV working with AICUD to present these, albeit modified, for member and other co-operatives.

What AICUD offers is summarized as follows on the AICUD web site

<http://www.aicud.com.au/courses/>

AICUD launched a **New Training Course** Curriculum from 2001 in response to a number of converging developments that collectively demanded a higher standard of core training and education for credit union directors. In summary these developments included the:-

- New legislative environment for credit unions under Corporations Law and Financial Services Reform Bill
- Impact of the harmonised prudential standards under APRA
- Marketplace challenges to the traditional credit union business model
- Imperative to better equip directors to engage in consideration of the strategic issues facing credit unions
- Goal within AICUD's Strategic Plan 2001-2004 to provide a nationally accredited qualification for director training and a membership categorisation system to publicly recognise competency and achievement.

The Training Courses are offered at three levels. To read the full details on each Course [Click Here](#)

1. Introductory Courses

1001: Credit Union Corporate Governance 1

1002: Financial Management 1 for Credit Union Directors

2. Cuna Mutual Credit Union Directors' Diploma Course (CMCUDDC6)

This seven module course is competency based in accordance with the Australian National Training Authority qualification guidelines for the Diploma in Financial Services (Credit Union Directorship). The seven modules are: -

2001: Corporations Act

2002: Prudential Regulation

2003: Financial Services & Other Regulation

2004: Financial Management 11

2005: Lending & Credit Risk Management

2006: Strategic Planning & Marketing

2007: Credit Union Corporate Governance 11

[Click here for a detailed overview of the Directors' Diploma Course](#)

3. Special Courses

3001: Chairing and Managing Meetings

3002: Board Audit Committee

3003: Evaluating Board & CEO Performance

202: Leading Your Credit Union (Offered in New Zealand only)

Mr. Oliver said that he would develop a proposal and submit this to the Federation within three weeks. He said that the AICUD would be open to working with CFV and had the capacity to modify its presentations for co-operatives that were not credit unions. The Chairman thanked him for his attendance and presentation and Mr. Oliver left the meeting.

Co-operative Federation of Victoria Ltd
Minutes of Board Meeting
10:30 am, 18 March 2004
Words In Time
1/484 King William Street

Draft Taxation Ruling TR2003/D13 and email from Tim Bunning of 30 January 2004 – Ruling mailed on 12 February 2004

This was deferred from the previous meeting of 25 February 2004. It was agreed to take no further action.

Our Energy – report by Graeme Charles enclosed: Retailer Inertia With Respect Rural Aggregation – the Our Energy Experience

This was deferred from the previous meeting of 25 February 2004. It was agreed to note Graeme Charles report and that there was no need for further action at this point of time.

Correspondence

This was deferred from the previous meeting of 25 February 2004. The Secretary noted that the slow or no response to Federation correspondence on FAO illustrated the challenges of public advocacy.

Garry Lewis Book brochure

This was deferred from the previous meeting of 25 February 2004. A decision was further deferred pending discussion with Gary Lewis regarding an online version only and obtaining a quote from Substitution for designing a brochure.

ICA

This was deferred from the previous meeting of 25 February 2004. It was noted that a formal proposal has not yet been received from the ICA regarding the development of the ICA web site.

Mr John Gill

It was agreed to adopt N. Black's suggestion that the contribution of John Gill should be noted and a letter forwarded to his family.

Future Consultation

At the previous meeting on 25 February 2004 it was agreed that there was a need to consult on the future of the Federation - to address the question of whether the co-operative movement placed sufficient value on the need for a Federation e.g. your attitude to the Federation, what do you expect of it and what did you expect. He said the board would be organizing two or three semi-formal meetings to discuss these issues and invite member, and non-member co-operatives to these meetings. It was also agreed that the agenda and format would be discussed at the next meeting.

Co-operative Federation of Victoria Ltd
Minutes of Board Meeting
10:30 am, 18 March 2004
Words In Time
1/484 King William Street

It was agreed that in consulting members the Federation should be able to argue that this is what we have been doing with these resources and this is what we would like to be doing with what resources.

Apart from the success of australia.coop, it was agreed to present a co-operative education proposal based on an arrangement with AICUD. It was noted that this did not prejudice any involvement with the UK Co-operative College.

It was agreed to work towards end June consultation meeting(s) and that the Chairman would in the meantime talk with Murray Goulburn.

Next Meeting: 10:30 am, 06 May 2004 at Substitution

David Griffiths
Secretary
22 March 2004